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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

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Appellant(s): BIBLIOWICZ ET AL.

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EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 8-16-2005 appealing from the Office action

mailed 6-02-2005.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings, which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

No evidence is relied upon by the examiner in the rejection of the claims under appeal.

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 1-7, 9-16, 18-26, 28-35, 37-45, 47-54, 56, and 57 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al., Patent #6,067,551, hereinafter

Brown, Kumar et al., Patent #6,342,906, hereinafter Kumar and Caronni et al., Patent

#6,195,751, hereinafter Caronni.

6.   With regard to claim 1, Brown teaches a method of collaborating users access to

a document on a network (see column 2, lines 48-65), storing a document on a server

(see column 2, lines 56-61), receiving a request, in the server, to open the document

(see column 10, lines 65 through column 11, line 3), establishing a collaboration session

where the sever permits two or more users to work simultaneously across a network on

a document stored on the server (see column 2, liens 46-65), receiving a command to

modify the document from a first user in the session (see column 3, lines 30-34), and

the server distributing the command to modify to the other ones of the collaborators in

the session (see column 4, lines 7-26). Brown, however, doesn't explicitly state that the

document being shared is a drawing document. Kumar teaches as system of collaborating with a group of users on a project (see column 3, lines 33-51) in a real time environment (see column 3, lines 39-51), similar to that of Brown, but further teaches the data in the shared workspace being a drawing document (see column 3, lines 39-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Brown and Kumar before him at the time the invention was made to modify the collaborating system of Brown to share drawing documents. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because Brown states that the system can be implemented with other types of documents, where a drawing document as used in Kumar is an obvious choice. Brown further teaches, in column 1, lines 45-55, that the user regularly accesses common documents from the server, but doesn't specifically teach collaborators communicating the modifications of documents through the use of heartbeat commands regularly transmitted at defined intervals. Caronni teaches a system in which there is a group collaboration session between a plurality of users, in which revision information is passed between users (see column 6, lines 4-19 and column 12, lines 15-25), similar to that of Brown and Kumar, but further teaches, the transmission of updated revised information being transmitted by regularly transmitted heartbeat messages (see column 11, line 61 through column 12, line 52). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Brown, Kumar, and Caronni before him at the time the invention was made to modify the notification system of Brown and Kumar to include the use of heartbeat commands, as did Caronni. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because in a system in

which the current document must be kept up to date with the most current version of a document a regularly transmitted signal (such as heartbeat messages) would provide continual updating.

7.   With regard to claims 2, 21, and 40, which teach the sever maintaining a history of modifications to the drawing document, Brown further teaches, in column 17, lines 1-14, keeping a change history.

8.   With regard to claims 3, 14, 22, 33, 41, and 52, which teach the history being used to support an undo command, Brown teaches, in column 15, lines 24-35, an undo file which uses various edits (changes) of the users.

9.   With regard to claims 4, 23, and 42, which teach the history being used to re-communicate modifications to the two or more users, Brown further teaches, in column 17, lines 1-14, keeping a change history, which maintains the recent changes.

10.   With regard to claims 5, 16, 24, 35, 43, and 54, which teach the server maintaining a record of the collaboration session including name, numbers, and statuses of the two or more collaborators, Brown further teaches, in column 11, line 66 through column 12, line 8, and in figure 3, a record file for a user containing a name, a date/time number, and a user version identifier.

11.   With regard to claims 6, 15, 25, 34, 44, and 53, which teach the command comprising an extensible markup language XML command, Brown teaches, in column 18, lines 12-27, using a language most useful for the users' needs an purposes, where XML would be an obvious choice for this network based application.

12.   With regard to claims 7, 26, and 45, which teach two or more collaborators all

having write access for the drawing document during the session, Brown further

teaches, in column 5, lines 35-46, a multi-user system that provides simultaneous

editing.

13.   With regard to claims 9, 28, and 47, which teach generating an identifier for the

command, Brown teaches, in column 3, lines 50-60, an identifier for a command. With

regard to claim 9, further teaching distributing the identifier with the command to the

other collaborators in the session, Brown further teaches, in column 4, lines 6-27, the

other users using the system with the version id number.

14.   With regard to claims 10, 18, 29, 37, 48, and 56, which teach the command

specifies an object identifier for an object in the drawing document that is modified,

Brown further teaches, in column 4, lines 6-27, the tracking and saving of edited

versions that contain id numbers.

15.   With regard to claims 11, 19, 30, 38, 49, and 57, which teach an extensible set of

three dimensional modeling tools for modifying the drawing document, Kumar further

teaches, in column 3, lines 3, lines 39-51 and column 4, lines 10-24, a drawing

document with a three-dimensional view which is editable by a drawing tool.

16.   With regard to claim 12, Brown teaches a method of collaborating users access

to a document on a network (see column 2, lines 48-65), establishing a collaboration

session where the sever permits two or more users to work simultaneously across a

network on a document stored on the server (see column 2, liens 46-65), and receiving

a command to modify the document from a first user in the session (see column 3, lines

30-34). Brown, however, doesn't explicitly state that the document being shared is a

drawing document. Kumar teaches as system of collaborating with a group of users on

a project (see column 3, lines 33-51), similar to that of Brown, but further teaches the

data in the shared workspace being a drawing document (see column 3, lines 39-51). It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of

Brown and Kumar before him at the time the invention was made to modify the

collaborating system of Brown to share drawing documents. One would have been

motivated to make such a combination because Brown states that the system can be

implemented with other types of documents, where a drawing document as used in

Kumar is an obvious choice. Brown further teaches, in column 1, lines 45-55, that the

user regularly accesses common documents from the server, but doesn't specifically

teach collaborators communicating the modifications of documents through the use of

heartbeat commands regularly transmitted at defined intervals. Caronni teaches a

system in which there is a group collaboration session between a plurality of users, in

which revision information is passed between users (see column 6, lines 4-19 and

column 12, lines 15-25), similar to that of Brown and Kumar, but further teaches, the

transmission of updated revised information being transmitted by regularly transmitted

heartbeat messages (see column 11, line 61 through column 12, line 52). It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Brown, Kumar,

and Caronni before him at the time the invention was made to modify the notification

system of Brown and Kumar to include the use of heartbeat commands, as did Caronni.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination because in a system in

which the current document must be kept up to date with the most current version of a document a regularly transmitted signal (such as heartbeat messages) would provide continual updating.

17.   With regard to claim 13, which teaches receiving a second command, as a part of a second heartbeat command, to modify the document from the server wherein the command was originally transmitted from another collaborator, Kumar further teaches, in column 3, lines 48-51, the workspace being kept synchronized with everyone else, by synchronization between clients through servers.

18.   With regard to claim 20, Brown teaches, a system with a shard disk on a network and use of a shared server (see column 2, lines 46-62), a method of collaborating users access to a document on a network (see column 2, lines 48-65), a computer program stored on the server (see column 4, lines 7-11), storing a document on a server (see column 2, lines 56-61), receiving a request, in the server, to open the document (see column 10, lines 65 through column 11, line 3), establishing a collaboration session where the sever permits two or more users to work simultaneously across a network on a document stored on the server (see column 2, liens 46-65), receiving a command to modify the document from a first user in the session (see column 3, lines 30-34), and the server distributing the command to modify to the other ones of the collaborators in the session (see column 4, lines 7-26). Brown, however, doesn't explicitly state that the document being shared is a drawing document. Kumar teaches as system of collaborating with a group of users on a project (see column 3, lines 33-51) in a real time environment (see column 3, lines 39-51), similar to that of Brown, but further

teaches the data in the shared workspace being a drawing document (see column 3, lines 39-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Brown and Kumar before him at the time the invention was made to modify the collaborating system of Brown to share drawing documents. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because Brown states that the system can be implemented with other types of documents, where a drawing document as used in Kumar is an obvious choice. Brown further teaches, in column 1, lines 45-55, that the user regularly accesses common documents from the server, but doesn't specifically teach collaborators communicating the modifications of documents through the use of heartbeat commands regularly transmitted at defined intervals. Caronni teaches a system in which there is a group collaboration session between a plurality of users, in which revision information is passed between users (see column 6, lines 4-19 and column 12, lines 15-25), similar to that of Brown and Kumar, but further teaches, the transmission of updated revised information being transmitted by regularly transmitted heartbeat messages (see column 11, line 61 through column 12, line 52). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Brown, Kumar, and Caronni before him at the time the invention was made to modify the notification system of Brown and Kumar to include the use of heartbeat commands, as did Caronni. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because in a system in which the current document must be kept up to date with the most current version of a document a regularly transmitted signal (such as heartbeat messages) would provide continual updating.

19.   With regard to claim 31, Brown teaches, a system with a shard disk on a network

and use of a shared server (see column 2, lines 46-62), a method of collaborating users

access to a document on a network (see column 2, lines 48-65), a computer program

stored on the server (see column 4, lines 7-11), storing a document on a server (see

column 2, lines 56-61), establishing a collaboration session where the sever permits two

or more users to work simultaneously across a network on a document stored on the

server (see column 2, liens 46-65), and receiving a command to modify the document

from a first user in the session (see column 3, lines 30-34). Brown, however, doesn't

explicitly state that the document being shared is a drawing document. Kumar teaches

as system of collaborating with a group of users on a project (see column 3, lines 33-51)

in a real time environment (see column 3, lines 39-51), similar to that of Brown, but

further teaches the data in the shared workspace being a drawing document (see

column 3, lines 39-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art,

having the teachings of Brown and Kumar before him at the time the invention was

made to modify the collaborating system of Brown to share drawing documents. One

would have been motivated to make such a combination because Brown states that the

system can be implemented with other types of documents, where a drawing document

as used in Kumar is an obvious choice. Brown further teaches, in column 1, lines 45-55,

that the user regularly accesses common documents from the server, but doesn't

specifically teach collaborators communicating the modifications of documents through

the use of heartbeat commands regularly transmitted at defined intervals. Caronni

teaches a system in which there is a group collaboration session between a plurality of

users, in which revision information is passed between users (see column 6, lines 4-19

and column 12, lines 15-25), similar to that of Brown and Kumar, but further teaches,

the transmission of updated revised information being transmitted by regularly

transmitted heartbeat messages (see column 11, line 61 through column 12, line 52). It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of

Brown, Kumar, and Caronni before him at the time the invention was made to modify

the notification system of Brown and Kumar to include the use of heartbeat commands,

as did Caronni. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because

in a system in which the current document must be kept up to date with the most current

version of a document a regularly transmitted signal (such as heartbeat messages)

would provide continual updating.

20.   With regard to claim 32, which teaches the computer program configured to

receive a second command, as a part of a second heartbeat command, to modify the

document from the server wherein the command was originally transmitted from another

collaborator, Brown further teaches, the server distributing the command to modify to

the other ones of the collaborators in the session (see column 4, lines 7-26). Kumar

further teaches this limitation in column 3, lines 48-51, where he discusses the

synchronization of the systems.

21.   With regard to claim 39, Brown teaches a computer readable medium which

performs a method of collaborating users access to a document on a network (see

column 2, lines 48-65), storing a document on a server (see column 2, lines 56-61),

receiving a request, in the server, to open the document (see column 10, lines 65

through column 11, line 3), establishing a collaboration session where the sever permits

two or more users to work simultaneously across a network on a document stored on

the server (see column 2, liens 46-65), receiving a command to modify the document

from a first user in the session (see column 3, lines 30-34), and the server distributing

the command to modify to the other ones of the collaborators in the session (see

column 4, lines 7-26). Brown, however, doesn't explicitly state that the document being

shared is a drawing document. Kumar teaches as system of collaborating with a group

of users on a project (see column 3, lines 33-51) in a real time environment (see column

3, lines 39-51), similar to that of Brown, but further teaches the data in the shared

workspace being a drawing document (see column 3, lines 39-51). It would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Brown and Kumar

before him at the time the invention was made to modify the collaborating system of

Brown to share drawing documents. One would have been motivated to make such a

combination because Brown states that the system can be implemented with other

types of documents, where a drawing document as used in Kumar is an obvious choice.

Brown further teaches, in column 1, lines 45-55, that the user regularly accesses

common documents from the server, but doesn't specifically teach collaborators

communicating the modifications of documents through the use of heartbeat commands

regularly transmitted at defined intervals. Caronni teaches a system in which there is a

group collaboration session between a plurality of users, in which revision information is

passed between users (see column 6, lines 4-19 and column 12, lines 15-25), similar to

that of Brown and Kumar, but further teaches, the transmission of updated revised

information being transmitted by regularly transmitted heartbeat messages (see column

11, line 61 through column 12, line 52). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art, having the teachings of Brown, Kumar, and Caronni before him at the

time the invention was made to modify the notification system of Brown and Kumar to

include the use of heartbeat commands, as did Caronni. One would have been

motivated to make such a combination because in a system in which the current

document must be kept up to date with the most current version of a document a

regularly transmitted signal (such as heartbeat messages) would provide continual

updating.

22.   With regard to claim 50, Brown teaches a computer readable medium which

performs a method of collaborating users access to a document on a network (see

column 2, lines 48-65), establishing a collaboration session where the sever permits two

or more users to work simultaneously across a network on a document stored on the

server (see column 2, liens 46-65), and receiving a command to modify the document

from a first user in the session (see column 3, lines 30-34). Brown, however, doesn't

explicitly state that the document being shared is a drawing document. Kumar teaches

as system of collaborating with a group of users on a project (see column 3, lines 33-51)

in a real time environment (see column 3, lines 39-51), similar to that of Brown, but

further teaches the data in the shared workspace being a drawing document (see

column 3, lines 39-51). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art,

having the teachings of Brown and Kumar before him at the time the invention was

made to modify the collaborating system of Brown to share drawing documents. One

would have been motivated to make such a combination because Brown states that the system can be implemented with other types of documents, where a drawing document as used in Kumar is an obvious choice. Brown further teaches, in column 1, lines 45-55, that the user regularly accesses common documents from the server, but doesn't specifically teach collaborators communicating the modifications of documents through the use of heartbeat commands regularly transmitted at defined intervals. Caronni teaches a system in which there is a group collaboration session between a plurality of users, in which revision information is passed between users (see column 6, lines 4-19 and column 12, lines 15-25), similar to that of Brown and Kumar, but further teaches, the transmission of updated revised information being transmitted by regularly transmitted heartbeat messages (see column 11, line 61 through column 12, line 52). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Brown, Kumar, and Caronni before him at the time the invention was made to modify the notification system of Brown and Kumar to include the use of heartbeat commands, as did Caronni. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because in a system in which the current document must be kept up to date with the most current version of a document a regularly transmitted signal (such as heartbeat messages) would provide continual updating.

23.   With regard to claim 51, which teaches receiving a second command, as a part of a second heartbeat command, to modify the document from the server wherein the command was originally transmitted from another collaborator, Kumar further teaches,

in column 3, lines 48-51, the workspace being kept synchronized with everyone else, by

synchronization between clients through servers.

(10) Response to Argument

Claims 1, 20, and 39:

With respect to the arguments directed at the independent claims

including Claims 1, 20, and 39 the Appellant's arguments are focused on the

existence of all limitations being located on one of the three references used to

reject the independent claims.

Since the interpretation of the limitation is the basis for the arguments, the

Examiner's interpretation is now given. The claim, as interpreted by the examiner,

pertains to a method of collaborative access to a document for a plurality of users,

where users are kept up to date with modification made by another user, these

modifications transmitted between clients first going the a central sever which provides

distribution, this transmission being done via regularly transmitted commands. As

stated in the eighth paragraph of MPEP 2101[R2].II.C.,

> "*Office personnel are to give claims their broadest reasonable*
>
> *interpretation in light of the supporting disclosure.* In re Morris, 127 F.3d
>
> 1048, 1054-55, 44 USPQ2d 1023,1027-28 (Fed. Cir. 1997)."

Based on the interpretation of the claim limitations being argued, the
Examiner will now explain how the teachings of the Brown, Kumar, and Caronni
references are within the scope of these limitations.

Brown teaches a method of collaborating users access to a document on a
network (see column 2, lines 48-65), storing a document on a server (see column 2,
lines 56-61), receiving a request, in the server, to open the document (see column 10,
lines 65 through column 11, line 3), establishing a collaboration session where the sever
permits two or more users to work simultaneously across a network on a document
stored on the server (see column 2, liens 46-65), receiving a command to modify the
document from a first user in the session (see column 3, lines 30-34), and the server
distributing the command to modify to the other ones of the collaborators in the session
(see column 4, lines 7-26). Brown, however, doesn't explicitly state that the document
being shared is a drawing document or the use of heartbeat commands for controlling
document modification. Kumar teaches as system of collaborating with a group of users
on a project (see column 3, lines 33-51) in a real time environment (see column 3, lines
39-51), similar to that of Brown, but further teaches the data in the shared workspace
being a drawing document (see column 3, lines 39-51).

This being an obvious combination as Brown states that the system can be
implemented with other types of documents, where a drawing document as used in
Kumar is an obvious choice. Brown further teaches, in column 1, lines 45-55, that the

user regularly accesses common documents from the server, but doesn't specifically

teach collaborators communicating the modifications of documents through the use of

heartbeat commands regularly transmitted at defined intervals. Caronni teaches a

system in which there is a group collaboration session between a plurality of users, in

which revision information is passed between users (see column 6, lines 4-19 and

column 12, lines 15-25), similar to that of Brown and Kumar, but further teaches, the

transmission of updated revised information being transmitted by regularly transmitted

heartbeat messages (see column 11, line 61 through column 12, line 52). It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Brown, Kumar,

and Caronni before him at the time the invention was made to modify the notification

system of Brown and Kumar to include the use of heartbeat commands, as did Caronni.

One would have been motivated to make such a combination because in a system in

which the current document must be kept up to date with the most current version of a

document a regularly transmitted signal (such as heartbeat messages) would provide

continual updating.

The examiner will now address the individual arguments and statements

made by Appellant.

From page 5 of the Appeal Brief, from the second paragraph, the

Appellant argues that Brown fails to teach collaboration on a drawing document,

where the only time the document is updated is when a user saves a change to a document locally.

The examiner respectfully contends that Brown teaches simultaneous multi-user editing of a document stored on a server (see column 2, lines 46-65). If users are editing a document stored on a server the document available of anther user to edit is being simultaneously edited by another user. Kumar supplements this teaching of dynamic editing, and is relied upon for teaching of the use in a drawing collaboration system. Kumar teaches as system of collaborating with a group of users on a project (see column 3, lines 33-51) in a real time environment (see column 3, lines 39-51), and the data in the shared workspace being a drawing document (see column 3, lines 39-51).

From page 5 of the Appeal Brief, from the third paragraph, the Appellant argues that Brown fails to teach the use of a regular transmitted heartbeat command that is send from the client to the server, and therefor fails to teach a collaboration session

The examiner respectfully contends that Brown teaches simultaneous multi-user editing of a document stored on a server (see column 2, lines 46-65), which clearly allows for a plurality of user to collaborate on a document, and it is agreed upon that Brown doesn't specify transmission via a heartbeat arrangement. However, as is recited in the office action Brown and Kumar are further supplemented by Caronni who teaches a collaboration session (see column 1, lines 20-42) between a plurality of

participants at respective locations that transmit (under the "Centralized Flat"

implementation (see column 6, lines 31-43)) edits to a server for further distribution,

similar to that of Brown and Kumar, but further teaches the distribution of regular

heartbeat commands from a client to a server and then from a server to other clients to

keep every entity up to date with the latest version (see column 11, line 60 through

column 12, line 25, column 6, lines 4-43, and in column 12, lines 40-52).

From page 5 of the Appeal Brief, from the fourth paragraph, the Appellant

argues that the Kumar reference fails to teach a server used to maintain and

store the drawing document during the collaboration, nor does he teach the

transmission of a heartbeat command.

In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one

cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections

are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208

USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.,* 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir.

1986).

The examiner respectfully contends that Kumar is relied upon to supplement the

teachings of Brown and Caronni, and need not recite every limitation of the claim in and

of itself.

From page 6 of the Appeal Brief, from the first paragraph, the Appellant argues that the Caronni reference doesn't teach a heartbeat command that comprises "a command to modify the drawing document".

The examiner respectfully contends that Caronni teaches in column 11, line 60 through column 12, line 25, and column 12, lines 40-52, and figures 4 and 8, a transmission of a heartbeat command where the heartbeat command comprises a key ID, a version information, and a revision information. This heartbeat command being transmitted in an attempt to keep a large number of sending an receiving participants up to date on the newest version of a distributed document, for use in systems such as "multimedia conference, computer-supported collaborative work, (and) distributed computing" systems (see column 1, lines 20-37 and column 6, line 66 through column 7, line 9).

In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

The examiner respectfully contends that Kumar is relied upon to supplement the teachings of Brown and Caronni, and further teaches the use of a drawing document in a dynamic collaborative work environment (see column 3, lines 39-51).

From page 8 of the Appeal Brief, from the first paragraph, the Appellant argues

that the Caronni's "heartbeat is not a command to modify a drawing document but

merely a key used in a key management system".

The examiner respectfully contends that Caronni teaches a heartbeat command

being transmitted in an attempt to keep a large number of sending an receiving

participants up to date on the newest version of a distributed document, for use in

systems such as "multimedia conference, computer-supported collaborative work, (and)

distributed computing" systems (see column 11, line 60 through column 12, line 25, and

column 12, lines 40-52, column 1, lines 20-37, and column 6, line 66 through column 7,

line 9). Is a key is used for this identification purposes, but the underling purpose is of

collaborative unity of a document.

In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one

cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections

are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208

USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.,* 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir.

1986).

The examiner respectfully contends that Kumar is relied upon to supplement the

teachings of Brown and Caronni, and further teaches the use of a drawing document in

a dynamic collaborative work environment (see column 3, lines 39-51).

From page 8 of the Appeal Brief, from the first full paragraph, the Appellant

argues that the Caronni doesn't even suggest a system in which a server transmits the

modification as part of a second heart beat command to other collaborators in the

system.

The examiner respectfully contends that Caronni teaches a heartbeat command

being transmitted in an attempt to keep a large number of sending an receiving

participants up to date on the newest version of a distributed document, for use in

systems such as "multimedia conference, computer-supported collaborative work, (and)

distributed computing" systems (see column 11, line 60 through column 12, line 25, and

column 12, lines 40-52, column 1, lines 20-37, and column 6, line 66 through column 7,

line 9). Caronni further teaches a centralized entity that accepts and distributes the

heartbeat commands so as to keep all entities up to date (see column 6, liens 31-43

and column 10, lines 49-57).

Claims 6, 15, 25, 34, 44, and 53:

With respect to the arguments directed at Claims 6, 15, 25, 34, 44, and 53

the Appellant's arguments are focused on the modification of a document via an

XML command.

From page 10 of the Appeal Brief, from the second full paragraph, the Appellant

argues that the reference fail to point out the use of an XML command for modifying a

drawing document.

The examiner respectfully contends that no language in particular was

pointed out in the reference for the transmission of data between systems in the

collaboration environments; however, the transmission of data between

applications on different computer systems through the user of a server lends

itself to the use of a markup language such as XML (a language standard as

defined by W3C). This is a design choice that could have easily been

implemented in any language, though code transferred between systems in a

network environment, such as those of Brown, Kumar, and Caronni, is

notoriously well known to be done with a markup language including either XML

or HTML.

Claims 10, 18, 29, 37, 48, and 56:

With respect to the arguments directed at Claims *10, 18, 29, 37, 48, and*

56, the Appellant's arguments are focused on an identifier for an object in the

document to be modified. Specifically, representative claim 10 states:

"an object identifier for an object in the drawing document that is modified"

Since the interpretation of the limitation is the basis for the arguments, the

Examiner's interpretation is now given. The claim, as interpreted by the examiner,

pertains to an identifier, which an object in a drawing document that is modified, though

this may encompass the entire document. As stated in the eighth paragraph of MPEP

2101[R2].II.C.,

"*Office personnel are to give claims their broadest reasonable

interpretation in light of the supporting disclosure.* In re Morris, 127 F.3d

1048, 1054-55, 44 USPQ2d 1023,1027-28 (Fed. Cir. 1997)."

Based on the interpretation of the claim limitations being argued, the

Examiner will now explain how the teachings of the Brown, Kumar, and Caronni

references are within the scope of these limitations.

From page 11 of the Appeal Brief, from the third paragraph, the Appellant argues

that the reference fail to point out an identifier for an object in the document to be

modified.

The examiner respectfully contends that Kumar teaches, in column 4, lines 6-27,

identifier numbers that track versions of the documents. Kumar teaches, in column 1,

line 52 through column 2, line 10 and in column 4, lines 10-38, the dynamic

transmission between clients of a wrapper that lies over the actual drawing workspace,

but can be made part of the workspace. This shows that the actual separation of

components in the drawing document.

Caronni further teaches, in column 11, line 60 through column 12, line 25, the

transferring of revision information contain key IDs describing the key that contains

version and revision information.

Claims 11, 19, 30, 38, 49, and 57:

With respect to the arguments directed at Claims *11, 19, 30, 38, 49, and 57, the* Appellant's arguments are focused the limitation regarding 3D modeling tools. Specifically, representative claim 11 states:

"a extensible set of three dimensional modeling tools for modifying the drawing document"

Since the interpretation of the limitation is the basis for the arguments, the Examiner's interpretation is now given. The claim, as interpreted by the examiner, pertains to a tool that modifies a three-dimensional drawing document. As stated in the eighth paragraph of MPEP 2101[R2].II.C.,

"Office personnel are to give claims their broadest reasonable interpretation in light of the supporting disclosure. In re Morris, 127 F.3d 1048, 1054-55, 44 USPQ2d 1023,1027-28 (Fed. Cir. 1997)."

Based on the interpretation of the claim limitations being argued, the Examiner will now explain how the teachings of the Brown, Kumar, and Caronni references are within the scope of these limitations.

From page 12 of the Appeal Brief, from the second paragraph, the Appellant

argues that "nowhere in the text is there any description, implicit or explicit, of a set of

3D modeling tools."

The examiner respectfully contends that Kumar teaches, in column 3, lines 33-51

and in column 4, lines 10-24, a system in which a plurality of user collectively change a

drawing document via a drawing tool, where the drawing document can be shown in a

3D view. Therefore if a user modifies the drawing with the drawing tool and then views

it in a three dimensional view the user has effectively modified the 3 dimensional

representation of the document making the edit via a 3D modeling tool.

Claims 16, 35, and 54:

With respect to the arguments directed at Claims 16, 35, and 54, the

Appellant's arguments are focused the limitation regarding the display of a

collaboration palette which provides information relating to the collaborators in

the collaboration session.

From page 13 of the Appeal Brief, from the second full paragraph, the Appellant

argues that the reference don't teach "a display of a collaboration palette".

The examiner respectfully contends that Brown further teaches, in column 11,

line 58 through column 12, line 25, and in figures 3, 6, and 7, a record file for a user

containing a name, a date/time number, and a user version identifier, and further

teaches displaying a pallet that contains information relating to the users in the

collaboration session.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the

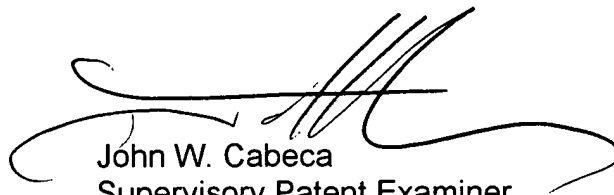Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.
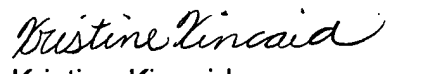
Respectfully submitted,

Conferees:

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January 30, 2006

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